



7-02-04

AF
1641
JFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Michael S.H. Chu et al. Confirmation No.: 6707
Serial No.: 09/430,050 Examiner: A. Lam
Filing Date: October 29, 1999 Group Art Unit: 1641
Docket No.: 1001.1258101 Customer No.: 28075
For: SPLIT VALVE FOR PEEL-AWAY SHEATH

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

NOTICE OF APPEAL

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.10: The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, "Express Mail Post Office to Address", having an Express Mail mailing label number of: EV 315614476 US, in an envelope addressed to:
Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
on this 30th day of June 2004.

By Kathleen L. Boekley
Kathleen L. Boekley

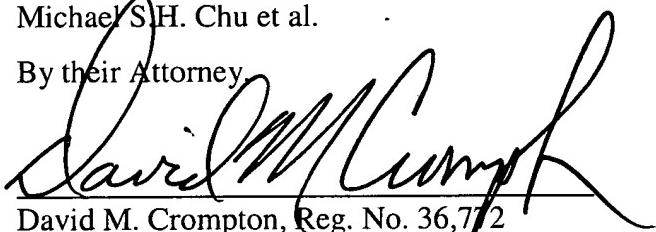
Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby appeal the final rejection of claims 1-9, 11-15, and 21 in the Final Office Action dated December 31, 2003. Appeal fees in the amount of \$330.00 are attached. Please charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 50-0413.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael S.H. Chu et al.

By their Attorney



David M. Crompton, Reg. No. 36,772
CROMPTON, SEAGER & TUFTE, LLC
1221 Nicollet Avenue, Suite 800
Minneapolis, MN 55403-2420
Telephone: (612) 677-9050
Facsimile: (612) 359-9349

Date: 6/30/04